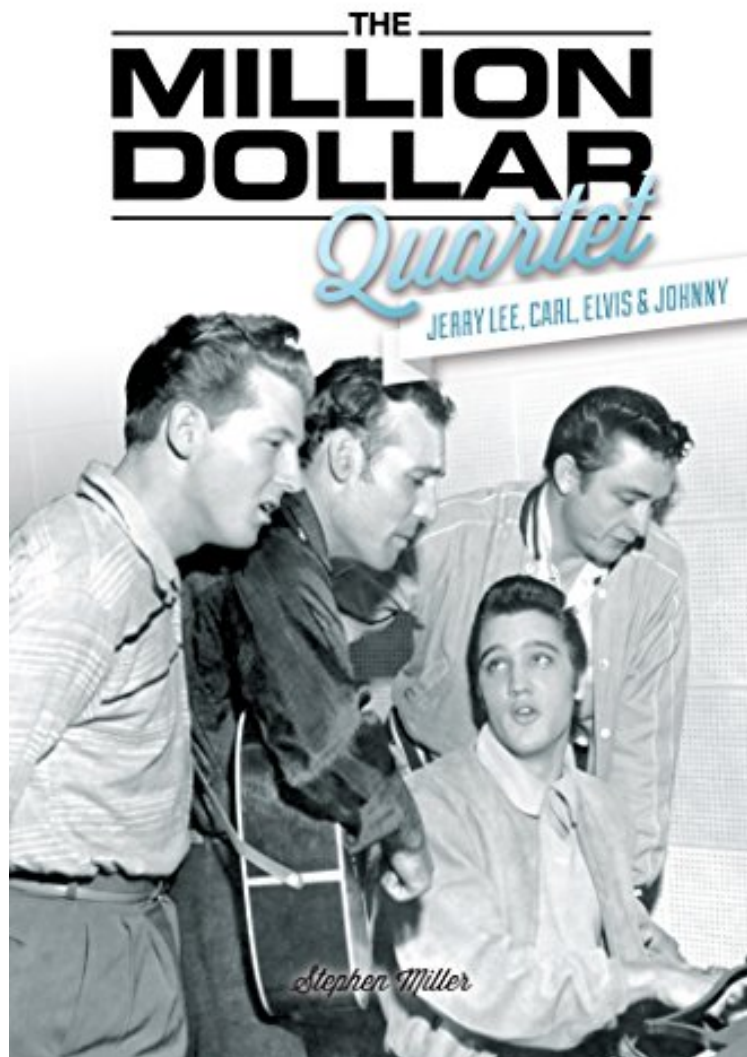


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The Million Dollar Quartet

Stephen Miller

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Stephen Miller : The Million Dollar Quartet before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Million Dollar Quartet:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Not Much New Info (aka, Carl Perkins was NOT from Jackson, MS) By Mark S. Crawford This book seems to be an attempt to cash-in on the current attention generated by the musical of the same name and subject. The author brings little new information regarding this musically historic "reunion", nor the individuals who participated. I've never read a history related non-fiction book that didn't include footnotes, endnotes, a reference page, or a bibliography; this book has none (there is also no index). What the author does supply is a list of Further Reading that has nine titles, which includes biographies and autobiographies - most of

which any fan of this period would have previously read. It's my opinion the author may have heavily relied on these sources for this book, but without proper citing, we'll not know. What soured me on this book was the account of Carl Perkins. I lived in Mr. Perkins' hometown for several years where I got to meet him and his family - even worked with one of his sons and grand-daughters. Being a fan of his music, as well as the person, I read the account of Mr. Perkins with a watchful eye. To my dismay, the author commits an amateur mistake when it comes to Mr. Perkins' story: the author never mentions Mr. Perkins' home town as Jackson, TN, but Jackson, MS (p. 28). Furthermore, he specifically identifies a local venue, the Cotton Boll, as being in Jackson, MS (p. 35). It was NOT in Jackson, MS, it was south of Jackson, TN on state hi-way 45 - I've been there (it's since been torn down)! Another joint called the Sand Ditch, is said to be in Jackson (p. 36), but no state is given (it was located on the west side of Jackson, TN). Another point that may irk Perkins' fans is the way one of Carl's childhood mentors is presented. Those who know the story will know that Uncle John Westbrook was more than ". . . an older man called John who played passionate blues and gospel songs on a battered old acoustic guitar when the day's work was finished (p. 32)." This book could be a good read for those who not familiar with the participants and/or the night these music pioneers came together. Those who are more familiar with the stories will find little new information.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The best. By C. Haskins
Wish we could have been there. Love it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Pete Borrelli
Dad loved it!

Million Dollar Quartet; is the name given to recordings made on Tuesday December 4, 1956 in the Sun Record Studios in Memphis, Tennessee. The recordings were of an impromptu jam session among Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Johnny Cash. The events of the session. Very few participants survive. Includes interviews with the drummer and the sound engineer. A detailed analysis of the music played; and its relevance to subsequent popular music. The early lives and careers of the quartet; where they were in 1956. Relevant social and economic factors which meant that a massive audience of young people were keenly looking for a new kind of music they could call their own. The reunions; of surviving members of the quartet. The emergence of the tapes, first on bootleg and then on legitimate CDs. The genesis of the stage show and its reception; the enduring appeal of the music.

About the Author
Stephen Miller has had a lifelong interest in popular music in general and country music in particular. He was a regular contributor to Scot Country, a radio show broadcast from Edinburgh. He has written biographies of Johnny Cash, Dolly Parton and Kris Kristofferson (all published by Omnibus Press). He has recently been involved in the production of programs relating to country music on BBC Radio 4. Married with four grown up children, Stephen Miller divides his time between Edinburgh and Nice.